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DIRECTORATE OF
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Imagery Analysis Service Notes

17 May 1968

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The IMAGERY ANALYSIS SERVICE NOTES is a periodic publication of the DDI Imagery Analysis Service, the departmental PI organization of CIA.

This publication highlights significant or timely intelligence items derived from photography.

The interpretations in this publication represent preliminary views which are subject to modification in the light of further information and more complete analysis.

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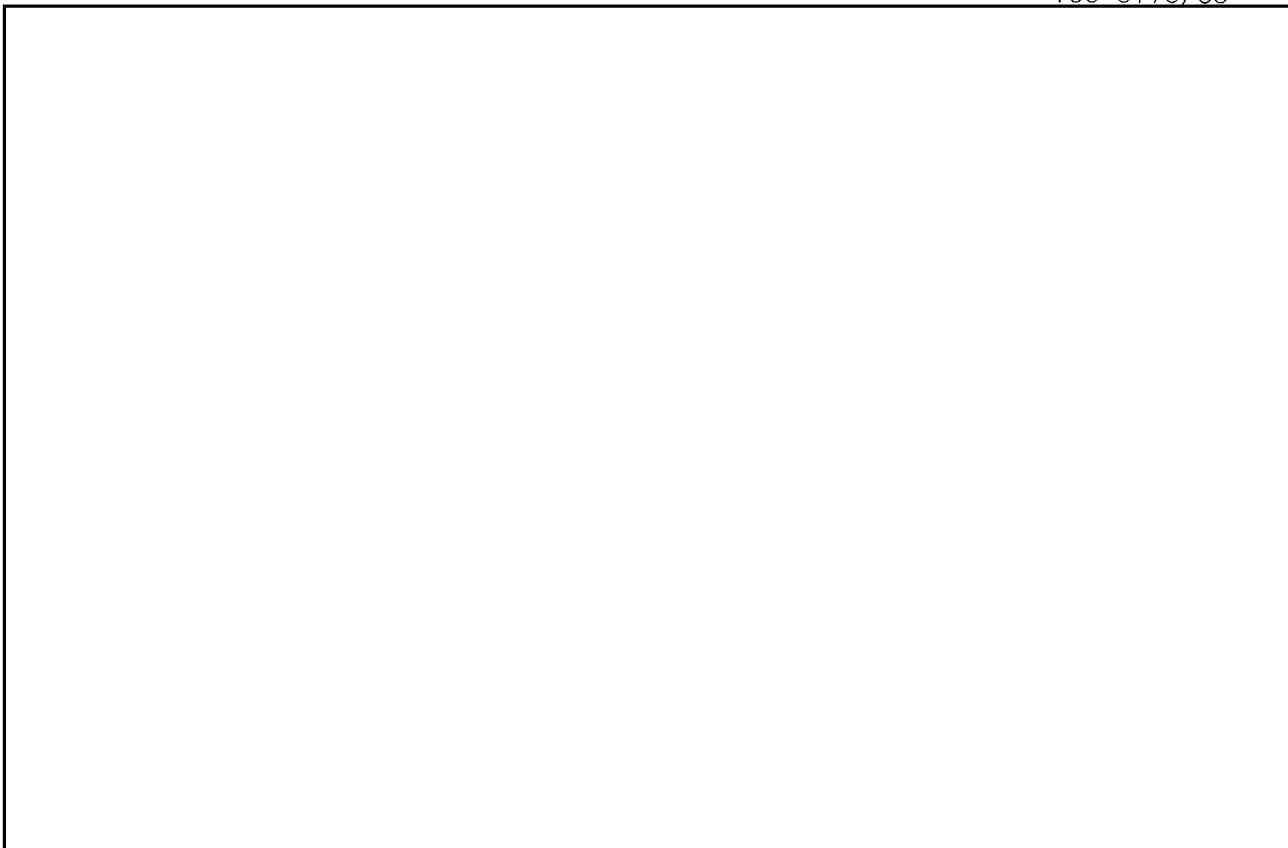
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CHINA

Japanese-Built Silicon Plant Verified at Lo-yang

Recently acquired ground photos have enabled us to make a firm identification on KH photography of a silicon plant at Lo-yang in northern Honan Province. The plant was built by Japanese business interests in 1966-67 and is China's only known silicon plant.* High purity silicon is necessary in the fabrication of integrated circuits and other electronic devices used for missile guidance and control systems, airborne electronics, and other advanced military equipment.

We earlier identified this installation on KH photography as a possible silicon plant because it was the only light fabrication industry found to have been built in Lo-yang during the reported construction timetable of the plant. Comparison of the KH coverage with the ground photographs, however, shows clearly that this is the plant in question.

*CIA/ER/IM 68-22, Japanese Export of an Embargoed Silicon Plant to Communist China, February 1968 (SECRET/NO FOREIGN DISSEM).

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